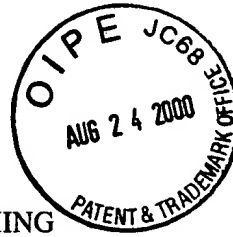


IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants : NANBU, et al.
Serial No. : 09/233,073
Filed : January 19, 1999
For : METHOD OF ETCHING



Examiner: Vinh, L.

Group Art Unit: 1765

PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Applicants, through their undersigned attorney, respectfully request a one month extension of time for responding to the outstanding Final Office Action dated April 24, 2000, in the above-identified patent application. The time for response is thus extended up to and including August 24, 2000.

A Notice of Appeal is being filed concurrently herewith.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees that may be necessary, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 02-4300.

Respectfully submitted,

SMITH, GAMBRELL & RUSSELL, LLP
The Beveridge, Degrandi, Weilacher & Young
Intellectual Property Group

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August 24, 2000

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